Instructor:

Bonnie Blustein, Ph.D.

Professor of Mathematics
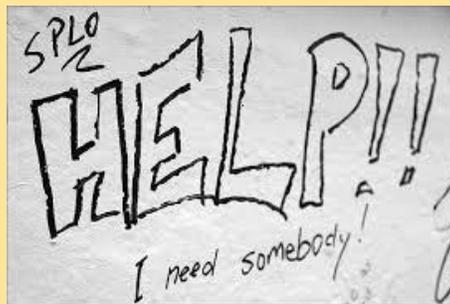
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MSB 205

Maybe you've always been good at math. Maybe not. Either way, I'm here to help you master the new material (and maybe to unlearn old mistakes) so that you can move ahead with your plans for an AA degree, transfer and – we all hope!—a job that will allow you to live comfortably and do meaningful work.

That's not easy today, when many students face real obstacles, and the kind of work we need is hard or impossible to find. So, while we're struggling with Algebra this semester, let's also spend a little time thinking about what education and work should really be like -- and how we can make that happen!

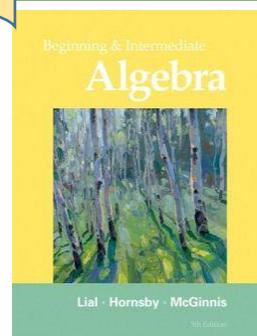**MATH TEACHER * COUNSELING * WLAC STUDENT HEALTH * EOP&S * TRIO ***

PROJECT LEARN * DSP&S * HLRC TUTORS * STUDY GROUPS * VETERANS CENTER * ASO

LA COUNTY HOTLINE 911

Math 123C (#1468)
TWTh   11:10 am – 12:25 pm
Elementary & Intermediate Algebra III
(4 units)   Classroom SC 105

SPRING 2015

YOU NEED THIS BOOK NOW!   **Find it on the Web for less.** The 4th edition would be okay. **More info inside.**

Or you may do homework on the free site www.interactmath.com and find instructional videos on YouTube and use any Intermediate Algebra text for reference.

REMEMBER THAT THE WAY TO SUCCEED IS TO DO A LOT OF PROBLEMS (CORRECTLY)!

Math 123C (#1468) Spring 2015
TWTh   11:10 am – 12:25 pm (Come Mondays for extra help)
Elementary and Intermediate Algebra III (4 units) Classroom SC 105

> This is the third module of a 3-semester combined Elementary and Intermediate Algebra course. The exit level for 123C is the same as Math 125 or Math 128.

Prerequisite: Mathematics 123B with a grade of "C" or better, or equivalent preparation approved by the Chair of the Mathematics Division.

Instructor: Dr. Bonnie Blustein   310-287-4217   blusteb@wlac.edu

Office Hours: I will be in the classroom on Mondays at the usual time to help you. Please come!

If you need help or want to chat, the best time to find me in my office (MSB 205) is usually Wednesday or Thursday, 12:45-2 pm, but please stop by any afternoon to see if I'm free, or email me to set up an appointment.

Textbook: Beginning & Intermediate Algebra by Lial, Hornsby & McGinnis. The Bookstore has a WLAC Custom Edition which is basically the regular 5th ed (2012, ISBN-9780321715869) We will cover chapters 10-14 in this course, but the final exam is cumulative and covers the entire text. **You can get the 5th edition (used or in electronic form) much more cheaply on-line.**

Free tutoring is available in the Learning Resource Center (Library). Please use it! You may also use the Math study room (MSB 217) where an instructor is often accessible.

Students with disabilities should contact Disabled Students Programs and Services located in SSB 320 (310-287-4450) immediately to arrange accommodations. The instructor will do everything possible to comply with ADA and all other mandates, and to assist you.

Most of us are dealing with a lot besides class: job (or joblessness), family problems, child care, health or housing issues, and many other impacts of the deep crisis in our society today. The **WLAC Health Center** can hook you up with a counselor to help you deal with stress. Other programs on campus that can help include **Workforce Development, TRIO-SSS, EOP&S, Counseling**, the **Veterans' Office**, and **DSPS**. Let me know what you need, and I will try to point you in the right direction.

The LA County hotline is **211** – it refers you to publicly available services.

IMPORTANT DATES:

FIRST DAY OF CLASS: TUESDAY, February 10
Last day to add a class, or to drop without W: Friday, February 20
Last day to drop with W: Friday, May 8
Final Exam: Thursday, June 4, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

HOW TO SUCCEED IN MATH123C:
Do a lot of math problems and make sure that your answers are correct!

Math is not a "spectator sport." Most students will need to spend <u>an hour or more each day, outside of class, plus weekend time</u>, practicing math.
- Specific problems will be assigned but NOT collected.
- Ask questions. Come Mondays for extra help.
- Form study groups! Meet in the Library and ask for a tutor to join you.
- Keep all of your work in an organized fashion and use it to study for tests.
- We will use Reading Apprenticeship techniques in this class.

You **Tube**

Begin each study session by reviewing your class notes and the text. Then do the assigned practice problems. Finally, preview the next day's section, either in the text OR by watching an online video.

Materials: Please bring your math notebook (with graph paper), pencils, a scientific or graphing calculator (if you have one – but see below) and the textbook to class each day.

Calculators: Calculators or laptops with symbolic manipulation capabilities (CAS) are <u>not allowed on tests</u>. That includes the TI-Nspire series, Casio ClassPad or Algebra FX2+ or Prizm, HP Prime, etc. <u>Also not allowed on tests</u> are calculators built into a phone or any other device with communication capability.

Attendance: Successful students will be in class on time every day, stay to the end, and participate in all class activities. College policy lets an instructor drop a student who has missed more than six hours of class. If you are absent too much (for any reason) AND you are not passing, you may be dropped without notice.

<u>If you miss a test, you MUST call or email me ASAP</u> to let me know why, and when you can take a make-up. If you miss two or more days in a row, please let me know why. <u>If you can't complete the class, it is YOUR responsibility to drop</u> the class ("withdraw") on or before Friday, May 8, 2015.

LET'S TALK IF YOU ARE THINKING ABOUT DROPPING THE CLASS and try to make a plan for you to succeed.

"Did I miss anything?" Yes! The schedule in this packet tells you what we're working on each day. If you miss a class, look for an instructional video on YouTube or read the text, and try the homework problems. Consult a tutor or use the instructor's office hours to get help.

R E S P E C T: Yourself, Classmates, Instructor

- Please practice positive behavior (cooperation, civility, helpfulness, constructive engagement). Participate fully in all class activities.

- Avoid disruptive behavior (side conversations, eating/drinking in class, wandering in and out of the room, coming late or leaving early without an urgent reason, etc.).

- Maintain the highest standards of academic honesty. Collaboration is encouraged on most homework, classwork, take-home assignments, and test corrections. However, you may NOT give or receive help on tests (except make-up points) and you may not turn in someone else's work as your own.

If you are discovered committing any act of academic dishonesty (cheating), you will receive no credit ("zero") for the test or assignment AND you will be suspended from class AND the case will be referred to the Vice-President for Student Affairs. For further information see the WLAC Catalogue and Schedule of Classes.

Evaluation/Grading

All the work you do in class and at home should help you achieve the course **Student Learning Outcomes** at a level that **prepares you for success in your next Mathematics course and in other situations requiring Algebra skills**. You know why you are taking this class: to learn Algebra, to complete an AA degree or a Transfer or Certificate program. I am confident that you can succeed, if you have enough time for the work. I am here to help you do that. "Grades" and "points" are feedback on your progress.

Ideally, education would be very different from today's schooling. There would be no points or tests or grades. But we must continue to struggle to create the social conditions necessary for this. Meanwhile, I will have to assign you a grade in June. It will be based on the rubric described below.

Quizzes (10) – 10% of grade. These will be short in-class exercises, generally during the first ten minutes of class. No make-up quizzes for any reason. The lowest two scores will be dropped.

In-Class Tests (3) - 60% of grade

These will mainly be "constructed-response" (show all work) in-class exercises. They are NOT designed to impose time pressure. Up to half the points lost on each test may be earned back by turning in corrections. Make-ups will only be given if there is a valid, documented excuse and if requested promptly. Options for earning-back points may be limited. **In-class tests (including the final exam) are scheduled for THURSDAYS. No test scores will be dropped**.

Final Exam – 30% of grade

This will be a two-hour departmental cumulative test during the regularly scheduled final-exam period. It will cover Ch. 2-14 with emphasis on the last half of the book. This is the same exam taken by students in Math 125.

Grades: "Incomplete" grades are extremely rare and may only be considered if a student is passing the class with a C or better on May 8 **and** is unable, due to an emergency, to complete the course on time. Otherwise, you must *withdraw* by Friday, May 8, 2015.

The **grading scale** will be no stricter than:

90-100% A   80-89% B   70-79% C   55-69% D   under 55% F

However, if your score on the final is 70% or higher AND you have been attending regularly and taking tests, you will pass the class.

If you are planning to continue in the STEM sequence of math courses, a C is NOT "good enough." Aim high.

Math 123C Course SLOs
1. Solve quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic equations
2. Graph and analyze quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions and conic sections
3. Analyze, model, and solve applications ("story" problems) within the scope of the above

Schedule- Subject to change by Instructor

- These are the problems you should do AFTER class. Use weekends and Monday mornings to catch up.
- "Orally" means you don't have to write it down. "eoo" means "Every Other Odd" problem
- ALWAYS check answers to odd problems in the back of the book, as you go.

Week #	MONDAY (Come for help with homework, test review or to work on test corrections)		TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
1	Feb. 9-12	Stop in to say "hello" and ask any questions you have.	10.1 #1-6 oral, 7-139 eoo, 143-150 all; 10.2 #1-10 oral, 11-35 eoo	10.2 ##51-103 eoo, 105-108 all 10.3 #3-59 eoo	10.3 #63-123 odds, 125=132 all
2	Feb. 16-19	School Closed – Presidents' Day weekend	10.4 #1-61 odds	10.5 #1-105 eoo	10.6 #7-55 odds, 63-67 odds 10.7 #7-87 eoo
3	Feb. 23-26	Get help on Chapter 10 or earlier material	11.1 #1-4 oral, 5-61 odds, 65-69 all 11.2 #3-29 odds	11.2 #31-57 odds 11.3 #5-53 odds	11.4 #7-81 odds Summary Exercises pp. 642-43 (after 10.5)
4	Mar. 2-5	Review for Test 1	11.5 #5-55 odds	IN CLASS: 11.6 HW: Ch. 10 "test" p. 655-666 Summary exercises p. 700 (after 11.4)	Test 1 (10.1-11.4) Homework 11.6 #1-35 odds, 37-46 all
5	Mar. 9-12	Get Test 1 back early – head start on corrections	11.7 #5-47 odds	11.8 #1-47 odds	7.3 #5-53 eoo 7.4 #3-35 odds, 45-55 odds, 56-66 all
6	Mar. 16-19	Finish Test 1 corrections and review ch. 7	7.5 #3-83 eoo, 85-86	12.1 #1-37 odds	12.1 #8-30 evens 12.2 #1-20
7	Mar. 23-26	Get help with ch. 12	12.2 #22-42 Ch. 7 Rev. #37-43	12.3 #1-47 odds	12.3 #48-66 Ch. 7 Rev. #44-54
8	Mar. 30 – Apr. 2	Review for Test 2	CESAR CHAVEZ HOLIDAY	Review Ch. 11 Review #25-61 odds Ch. 12 Rev. #1-26	Test 2 (11.5-11.8, 7.3-7.5, 12.1-12.3) Ch. 11 Cumulative Review
	SPRING BREAK APRIL 4 - 10				

SCHEDULE – Subject to change by Instructor – Part II

Week #	MONDAY (No class, but come for extra help with homework or the "topic of the day")		TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
9	Apr. 13-16	Get Test 2 back – head start on corrections	12.4 #1-19	12.4 #21-56	12.5 #1-41 odds
10	Apr. 20-23	Finish Test 2 corrections	12.5 #42-48 all, 49-57 odds, 58-70	12.6 #1-45 odds, 47-64; Ch. 8 "Test"	13.1 #1-10 all, 11-41 odds Ch. 10 Cumulative Review
11	Apr. 27-30	Review Ch. 12 story problems	13.2 #1-6, 7-41 odds, 49-54 Ch. 12 Review #1-26	13.3 #1-35 odds, 36, 43-48 Ch. 12 Review #27-41 all	Ch. 12 Review #42–76 all Ch. 13 review #1-16
12	May 4-7	Review for Test 3	13.4 #1-12 all, 11-39 odds, 43-48	Review for Test 3 Ch. 8 ?	TEST 3 (Ch. 12, 13.1-13.4 and review Ch. 8)
13	May 11-14	Get Test 3 back – head start on corrections	13.5 #1-6 all, 7-39 odds	14.4 #1-41 odds	14.3 #1-51 odds Ch. 13 review #17-40
14	May 18-21	NO OFFICE HOURS	14.1 #1-51 odds 14.2 #1-43 odds, 45-52 all	Ch. 12 cumulative review	Ch. 13 Cumulative Review
15	May 25-28	SCHOOL CLOSED – MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY	Sample exams	Sample exams	Ch. 14 Cumulative Review
16	June 1 - 7	FINALS START (no more regular day classes)			Cumulative Final Exam (NO MAKE-UP POINTS) THURS. June 4 11:30 am- 1:30 pm